

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /028 W

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R 151250Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASFZ LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7625

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0695

E.O. WYTCW N/19

5 & : IRIP, GB

SUBJ: AGREEMENT REQUEST FOR GOG AMBASSADOR

REFJI A.; LIBREZBILLE 0672, B) STATE 090111

1. FOLLOWING TELEPHONE CALL BY PRESIDENT BONGO REPORTED REFTEL A, CHARGE CONTACTED FONMIN OKUMBA AFTERNOON APRIL 12 AND OFFERED PERSONALLY TO COME OVER TO HIS OFFICE TO PICK UP COPY OF MISSING REQUEST FOR USG AGREEMENT FOR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE KOMBILI. HOWEVER, IT DEVELOPED OKUMBA WAS IN THROES OF LAST-MINUTE PREPARATIONS FOR EARLY MORNING DEPARTURE NEXT DAY AS HEAD OF GOG DELEGATION TO CAIRO. HE HAD THEREFORE ASSIGNED HIS CABINET DIRECTOR MVOULA TO FOLLOW UP MATTER AND GET DOCUMENT TO EMBASSY RIGHT AWAY. SHORT CONVERSATION WITH MVOULA ESTABLISHED THAT HE WOULD SEND AGREEMENT REQUEST TO US BY MESSENGER MORNING OF 13TH.

2. WHILE AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SEPARATE MATTER AFTERNOON OF APRIL 14, CHARGE REMARKED TO MVOULA THAT DOCUMENT CONCERNING KOMBILI STILL HAD NOT REACHED EMBASSY. MVOULA EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND IMMEDIATELY PHONED DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS TCHICAYA WHO HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO UNEARTH MISSING DOCUMENT AND DELIVER IT TO EMBASSY RIGHT AWAY. AFTER PROTRACTED CONVERSATION, MVOULA TOLD CHARGE NOT TO WORRY ANYMORE ABOUT MATTER. COPY OF AGREEMENT REQUEST WOULD BE AT EMBASSY NEXT DAY.

3. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS CHARGE STOPPED OFF AT TCHICAYA'S OFFICE TO DELIVER COPY OF SECRETARY'S LOS SPEECH AND SO NATURALLY
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RAISED QUESTION OF MISSING DOCUMENT. TCHICAYA REPLIED THAT

WE SHOULD NOT BECOME IMPATIENT; ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN
ABLE TO LOCATE AGREEMENT REQUEST HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HIS
OFFICE MESSENGER KNEW WHERE IT WAS. BY COINCIDENCE, MESSENGER
WAS IN HOSPITAL WITH BROKEN FOOT BUT WAS EXPECTED TO RETURN
TO WORK NEXT DAY AND TCHICAYA WOULD INSTRUCT HIM TO DIG UP
ELUSIVE DOCUMENT AND TAKE IT TO EMBASSY RIGHT AWAY.

4. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT SHOULD NOT BECOME "IMPATIENT".
WE WILL FORWARD INFORMATION REQUESTED REFTEL B "RIGHT AWAY".
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cahillha
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIBREV00695
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760144-0330
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760458/aaaabxgm.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 90111
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2004 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGREEMENT REQUEST FOR GOG AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PDIP, GB, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006